

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 197502

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SYRIA: KHADDAM CONFIDENT OF SUCCESS AT LIMA

IN A CONVERSATION AUGUST 18 WITH AMBASSADOR MURPHY, FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SYRIA'S CAMPAIGN TO OUST ISRAEL FROM THE UN WOULD WIN MAJORITY SUPPORT AT THE LIMA NONALIGNED CONFERENCE. EXPLAINING HIS ASSURANCE, KHADDAM:

--BLAMED CONFUSION CAUSED BY THE EGYPTIANS, RATHER THAN US PRESSURE, FOR REJECTION OF THE EXPULSION RESOLUTION IN KAMPALA;

--SAID THAT SYRIA HAD SINCE DEMONSTRATED THE GOE'S  
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PAGE 02 STATE 197502

ERROR AND EXPECTED SUPPORT FROM "19 OUT OF 20 ARAB

STATES PLUS A MAJORITY OF AFRICANS AND EAST ASIANS."

TURNING TO A FUTURE GENEVA CONFERENCE, KHADDAM, UNDERLINING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING PRIVATELY AND NOT ENUNCIATING A CLEARED SARG POLICY, ASSERTED THAT GENEVA:

--WILL BE A FARCE BECAUSE CAIRO WILL BE ANESTHETIZED AND THE US WILL BE IN THE MIDDLE OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS;

--COULD HAVE BEEN USEFUL HAD THE EGYPTIANS NOT DECIDED TO REACH A NEW SINAI ACCORD WITH ISRAEL. (CONFIDENTIAL) DAMASCUS 3186, 8/19.)

## 2. PORTUGAL: GONCALVES' REACH IS EXCEEDING HIS GRASP

EMBASSY LISBON REPORTS THAT DESPITE HIS IMPASSIONED PUBLIC APPEAL FOR SUPPORT ON AUGUST 18, PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES'S POSITION CONTINUES TO WEAKEN.

--THE MELO ANTUNES GROUP'S EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A JOINT POLITICAL PROGRAM WITH COPCON COMMANDER CARVALHO AND HIS OFFICERS ARE LIKELY TO SUCCEED.

--MILITARY SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED PROPAGANDA SECTION OF THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF IS EBBING, AS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF FABIAO HAS CALLED FOR ITS COMPLETE RESTRUCTURING.

EMBASSY COMMENT: GONCALVES SHOWS NO SIGNS OF GIVING UP HIS TENACIOUS EFFORT TO STAY IN POWER. HOWEVER, HIS DEMAND THAT THE ARMED FORCES PREVENT FURTHER VIOLENCE AGAINST THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS BEING IGNORED SINCE IN THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT TO DATE THE TROOPS BROUGHT IN TO PROTECT THE COMMUNISTS OPENED FIRE ON THEM, KILLING ONE. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 4720, 8/19.)

## 3. ANGOLA: LITTLE PROSPECT OF AN END TO FIGHTING

UNITA SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SANGUMBA DISCUSSED THE  
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PAGE 03 STATE 197502

SITUATION IN ANGOLA WITH EMBASSY LUSAKA AUGUST 18. ACCORDING TO SANGUMBA:

--THE MPLA'S STRATEGY IS TO SEIZE LUANDA AND OTHER ECONOMICALLY STRATEGIC AREAS TO ESTABLISH A CLAIM TO RECOGNITION AS THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT IN NOVEMBER OR EARLIER;

--THERE IS NOW LITTLE PROSPECT OF A NEW MEETING OF THE LEADERS OF THE THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OR OF USEFUL OAU INTERVENTION; AND

--THE ONLY SOLUTION IS FOR UNITA AND THE FNLA TO FIGHT THE MPLA TO A MILITARY STALEMATE SO THAT MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS CAN THEN BEGIN.

SANGUMBA ALSO ALLEGED THE MPLA MAY SOON GET MIG AIRCRAFT TO BE FLOWN BY CUBAN OR ALGERIAN PILOTS AND IS RECEIVING HUGE AMOUNTS OF SOVIET FUNDS. HE IMPLIED THAT UNITA WOULD ALSO ACQUIRE FOREIGN ADVISORS. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) LUSAKA 1564, 8/19.)

#### 4. YUGOSLAVIA COOLS ON PUERTO RICO ISSUE

AT USUN ON AUGUST 19, YUGOSLAV PERMREP PETRIC TOLD AMBASSADOR BENNETT THAT HIS COUNTRY HAS FROM THE BEGINNING TRIED TO MODERATE MATTERS IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24. PETRIC SAID:

--HE HAS TOLD CUBAN PERMREP ALARCON THAT CUBA, WHICH FLOATED ITS RESOLUTION WITHOUT CONSULTING THE YUGOSLAVS, SHOULD NOT CONSIDER HIS GOVERNMENT "IN ITS POCKET".

--YUGOSLAVIA HAS PROBLEMS WITH THE RESOLUTION'S PROPOSAL THAT A UN MISSION VISIT PUERTO RICO.

PETRIC ADDED THAT CUBA IS INSISTENT ON HAVING A RESOLUTION TO CARRY TO LIMA AND THEN IMPLIED THAT YUGOSLAVIA MUST SOMEHOW HELP CUBA OUT OF ITS SELF-CREATED DIFFICULTY. (USUN HAS SINCE LEARNED THAT YUGOSLAVIA AND INDIA BACKED THE MOTION IN THE COMMITTEE TO POSTPONE A DECISION UNTIL AUGUST 20 -- A CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 STATE 197502

DELAY WHICH MAY WORK AGAINST US SINCE A FURTHER WATERED-DOWN RESOLUTION MIGHT THEN GAIN THE SUPPORT OF BOTH.) (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 3730 AND 3729, 8/19.)

#### 5. USSR: UNCERTAINTY ON GRAIN HARVEST

EMBASSY MOSCOW REPORTS THAT OFFICIALS OF EXPORTKHLEB, THE GRAIN PURCHASING AGENCY, RECENTLY TOLD OUR AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE THAT:

--US PRESS, CONSUMER AND LABOR REACTION TO SOVIET PURCHASES IGNORES THE DESIRE TO BUY AT CURRENT PRICES, WITHOUT USG CREDITS.

--EXPORTKHLEB AT PRESENT HAS NO ADDITIONAL GRAIN PUR-

CHASE REQUESTS FROM ITS INTERNAL CLIENTS.

--HARVEST ESTIMATES ARE HARD TO MAKE AT THIS TIME SINCE  
THE AMOUNT OF COLLECTIVE FARM PRODUCTION IS STILL UN-  
KNOWN BUT A FIRM ESTIMATE MAY BE AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER.

ON THE HARVEST, THE EXPORTKHLEB ADMINISTRATOR OPINED THAT  
THE CIA "DISASTER" ESTIMATE AND USDA PREDICTIONS "MAY BOTH  
BE PREMATURE". HE ALSO, ACCORDING TO OUR EMBASSY, SHOWED  
MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST IN LONG TERM AGREEMENTS. (CON-  
FIDENTIAL) MOSCOW 11632, 8/19.)

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MORNING SUMMARY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** O: BOSWELL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, PINS, PORG, EAGR, SY, PO, AO, YO, UR  
**To:** NSA MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006